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TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 20, 1921

*The political party that will capitalize our victory by formulating and carrying on with the sanest, boldest constructive policy will be the legitimate winner, if America is awake to the world-wide cry for constructive endeavor to heal the wounds of war.*  
—Capt. J. A. Sargent.

## The French on the Sea

A persistence by the French delegates to the limitation of arms conference in their efforts to disarrange the naval ratio agreed upon by Japan, Great Britain and the United States, in the circumstances will alienate a lot of the world's good will. The ratio preserves France's naval status as well as Italy's and Italy is content, but will not be content if an exception is made providing for the building of a strong French navy.

France's debt incurred in the world war is not paid and cannot be paid for many years. That country is obligated to Great Britain and the United States in a vast sum and arrangements are being made or considered for the funding of the allied debt which has laid a great burden upon the American people which will bear it with less patience in the face of large expenditures by France for a navy at a time when other countries are able to afford such an expenditure than France are trying to reduce expenditures on their own navies, and which will be prevented from doing so if the attitude of the French delegation is maintained. At the same time the American people will be the more insistent that France prepare to meet its financial obligation and the pending funding plan will be made the more difficult.

Beside a stronger French navy would be either unnecessary or useless. There are only three naval powers, all friendly, which France would need to fear. Germany, the arch-enemy, has no navy and can have none; Russia has none and no other power than Italy has one which could compete with France in the Mediterranean. And if France should increase her navy there, the Italian navy would also be increased, so that these two countries would become involved in another neck-and-neck race which neither of them could afford. Out of such a pitting, one against the other, the use of their navies against each other would be a not unlikely event.

But supposing that in the course of a generation or a decade the friendliness which exists between France and one of the three great naval powers should be succeeded by unfriendliness or war, suppose that France should find itself in conflict with Great Britain, of what avail would be the naval program on which its delegation is insisting?

Or suppose some now unthinkable event should involve France with the United States, or the interests of France and Japan in the Far East should collide—how would such a navy as France is now planning serve it? In either of these three events the French navy would be strong enough only to court destruction.

We could sympathize with the reluctance with which Japan accepted the 5-5-3 ratio. There was no doubt of Japan's genuine apprehension. But no one can believe that France entertains a genuine fear of its defensive position, or that France believes that such a navy as she would build would be a sufficient defense on the sea against either of the three great maritime powers. Here is only a valiant inspiration. By the way, though that has nothing to do with the present question, France, whatever the numerical strength of her navies, has always been weak on the sea, the victim in turn of the English, the Dutch and the Spaniards.

The work of the conference had proceeded with such surprising smoothness and rapidity that only a few days ago it was predicted that it would be finished by the end of the year with more gratifying results than the most sanguine had anticipated. Not only had a substantial limitation been agreed upon but such a conciliatory spirit had been developed that a great hope of permanent peace had been inspired. Now there comes this obstacle thrown in by an insignificant naval power which threatens not only the limitation program but the spirit of the conference.

## This Is Christmas Time

If one stands about the Phoenix stores waiting for a chance to make a Christmas purchase, or stands in the long lines waiting to get to the bank tellers who are busy counting large rolls of currency that are being deposited, he wonders what is the basis of this talk of the pessimists that money is scarce in this community. There is a lot of money, not, of course, as evenly distributed as it ought to be, but it is here and the distribution will be effected.

A year ago a very large percentage of the taxes in this country had not been paid—about 40 per cent, as we recall. It was then predicted that the tax-paying situation in the fall that is now past, would be still worse, not only because there was no prospect of an influx of money but because the taxes would be heavier than anybody had ever known them to be in Maricopa county. And they have been heavier; that much could be plainly foreseen. But the forecasters were in error as to the ability of the taxpayers to meet them, for the delinquent list is unexpectedly short.

Whatever trouble we have had, taking the community over, has been largely a mental attitude, a way of thinking. That there is some trouble—and there always is—is true. There are some people who have been caught with large commitments and they have been embarrassed, but these people are generally men of credit and standing and, of course, will pull through. There are other unfortunate

people who have been denied employment, or have been overtaken by sickness or other misfortune, but generally they will be aided over.

For there is one nice thing about the people of this community and that is their readiness to help the unfortunate once they are known to be unfortunate and deserving. We have no doubt that within the last year liberal contributions were made to the relief of the needy by people who had not enough money to pay their taxes or to meet other obligations, which however they knew they would meet in spite of their existing embarrassments.

The Republican happens to know of several such cases where people supposed to be well-to-do, and were actually well-to-do, really underwent temporary deprivation to relieve suffering.

Such incidents are more common about Christmas time, when there is a more than usual awakening of human sympathy which this year should be given extraordinary play for, by reason of the greater volume of unemployment here, as elsewhere, there is greater need.

We hope that there will be such an adjustment that there will not be a child in Phoenix or in the Salt River valley, who will not be given some share of Christmas. That can be accomplished if everyone who is able to do so, even at some slight inconvenience to himself, will make a contribution to the Salvation Army Kettles, or to some other charitable organization, or who may give directly to some case within his own knowledge.

## The Critical Committee

The "committee of 48" composed largely of ladies and gentlemen of the cloudlands has issued a circular in which it damns with faint praise, the national budget and accuses President Harding of having purloined the budget idea from among the principles of the committee. The president is also advised, that there are other assorted garments in the stock of the committee which he is at liberty to steal to his advantage. Among them, we suppose, are national ownership of the railroads, and such a degree of free speech and freedom of the press as are advocated by the most advanced thinkers of the committee.

The budget notion by no means originated with the committee. It was advocated by forward looking men in and out of congress long before the organization of the committee and before some of the members of the committee were born. Possibly neither the president nor Director Dawes who have been busy men without leisure to pursue the propaganda of myriads of uplifters of one kind and another were aware that the committee had especially appropriated the budget notion.

The character of the committee's criticism of the budget as it has been presented is shown in this: The Budget Bureau is not, in its estimate for 1922, taking too seriously the proposals for reducing armament, since it still provides \$786,453,290.60 for war purposes, a reduction of only \$27,830,851.18 from the previous year.

This top heaviness is emphasized by comparison of war and civil expenditures of \$786,453,290.60 and \$1,084,983,502.93 respectively, showing the distance we must yet go to get even a fair start toward genuine peace conditions.

The committee must be aware that the preparation of the budget was begun many months ago; that it had to be completed by the time the congress should assemble in its short session; that the budget bureau was necessarily guided by existing legislation which provided, among many other things, for the execution of a naval building program. It was necessary for the budget to include an item for that. The bureau could not assume that the execution of this program would be obviated. The limitation of armaments conference had not assembled at that time and it had been in session less than two weeks when congress assembled.

Unless an agreement on limitation should be reached this money would be required. If now as appears probable it will not be required, it will not be spent.

## A Word for Hoeph

There is one thing about home-grown hoeph which ought to appeal strongly to those drinkers who claim they drink to drown their sorrows. Much of the stuff they used to drink was found to be ineffectual. Their sorrows were never really drowned. On the contrary, the sorrows came back with exaggerated, multiplied weight, and were added to the physical and mental remorse which always come to the surface with the lately submerged sorrows.

But with much of the present day beverages, if there happens to be a generous dilution of wood alcohol, the sorrows will be drowned to stay. There will be none of the painful aftermath, at least on this earth, for the man who baptizes his woes.

Lloyd George describes the limitation of armaments conference as a rainbow of hope. Anyhow if the conference succeeds every nation will find at the end of it a pot of gold representing the saving of the cost of armament.

Success, a philosopher tells us, depends upon backbone and not wishbone.

The weather bureau is holding out to us some prospect of typical Christmas weather.

## SOLDIERS GO TO FARMS

Canada's aid to returned soldiers is universally known, and the latest statistics issued show that the Soldiers' Settlement board have placed 26,000 returned men on the land with monetary advance exceeding \$34,000,000; 105,000 disabled soldiers were treated by the department of soldiers' civil re-establishment and 50,000 of them fitted by vocational training for new positions in life. 73,000 are in receipt of pensions on a scale more liberal than any other country in the world; .154,000,000 was paid in gratuities, and an insurance scheme has been developed by which returned men may protect their families from want, irrespective of their present condition of health.

## BRITAIN AND RUSSIA

England is out for important trade and concessions in Russia. Large enterprises are planned. The English figure upon a market in Russia for English agricultural machinery, tools, locomotives and steamers, and England should be able to supply Russia also with food, cloth, chemicals, rubber and groceries. England is interested in getting out of Russia Caucasian naphtha and also flax, furs, manufactures of wood, hides, asbestos and metals. The trade is not one involving short credit by any means. Indeed, there is thought of purchase on three to five years' credit for smaller deliveries and from 12 to 15 for larger.

## UNIFORM AUTO LAWS

An association has been formed in New York city to secure uniformity of the automobile laws of the different states. A recent meeting was attended by officers administering such laws in seven eastern states. The second meeting is to be held in New Jersey and recommendations will be adopted to lay before various state legislatures.

## Evolution

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## ABOUT THE STATE

## Greenway Awards Contract

DOUGLASS—Col. John C. Greenway passed through Douglas this morning from El Paso, where he has been for the purpose of opening bids and awarding the contract for grading and building bridges on the Chihuahuan and Orient railroad, a distance of forty-seven miles from Lucero, a station on the National Railway of Mexico to Los Lamentos mountains. Colonel Greenway is president of the new railroad company and sometime ago was authorized to ask for bids and award the contract for this line of railroad. The grading will be for a distance of 47 miles on the main line and three miles of side tracks. The contract for this work was awarded to Dudley & Orr, of El Paso and the work is to be completed within 150 days from December 29, this year.

## Organize Beta Chi

TUCSON—With a charter membership of eight the Beta Chi fraternity was added to the list of campus or organizations Tuesday when the university faculty committee approved its organization. With the advent of Beta Chi, the number of men's social fraternities has been raised from six to seven, four of which are chapters of national organizations, and three, among which is Beta Chi, are locals—Chitipee.

## Truck Rolls: Driver Escapes

BISBEE—An army light truck overturned on the Tombstone-Disabe

highway yesterday afternoon about three miles east of Tombstone, when the steering gear broke. County Recorder H. L. Hutchison, who was returning from Bisbee, was the first man on the scene following the accident, arriving shortly after the colored soldier who was driving, had extricated himself from under the wreckage. Outside of a few bruises the driver was uninjured while the truck was turned completely bottom side up, having rolled down an eight-foot embankment.

## Attribute Killing to Loneliness

PRESCOTT—Christopher Baker, a mining man well known in this county, met his death at the hands of his partner in the wilderness north of Prescott, Cal., early this week, according to information reaching here yesterday. He was shot and killed by Gideon Morgan at the end of an altercation believed to have been brought on by the lonely life of prospecting and mining.—Journal-Miner.

## Find Shooting Accidental

YUMA—That Sidney D. Ervin came to his death accidentally in the mountains a few miles from the King of Arizona mine was the verdict reached late yesterday afternoon by the coroner's jury which had taken the entire day to arrive at its decision. L. J. Reinhardt, the companion of Mr. Ervin when he was shot was the only witness who could tell of the tragedy.—Sun.

## HOW MAIL IS LOST

(By Frederic J. Haskin)

NEW YORK CITY, Dec. 19.—If you fail to receive a letter when you know one is due, don't give up hope. You are apt to get it in the long run. A letter written in New York 10 years and 5 months ago was delivered in Philadelphia just the other day, while in another case recently reported a letter was delivered nearly half a century after it was mailed.

Such instances, of course, are not common. The majority of mail that is lost is lost forever, because it is stolen and destroyed by thieves, the postoffice authorities rarely recovering letters and valuables disappearing in this way. But letters are often delayed and lost through other, sometimes curious, means.

"For example, letters occasionally get stuck in the mail boxes," says a postoffice worker, "but the frequent jarring of the lid generally dislodges these without great delay. There is also a chance of a letter falling through a crack or getting behind a partition in the wall, to remain there uncollected until the mail is torn down and to be found accidentally. But the most extensive cache is in old mail bags. Negligent clerks fail to shake out all the letters that have been put in the bags and the mail bags may remain for months in a storage house and the mail be undiscovered until the bags are sent to a repair shop."

The postoffice worker of our acquaintance knows of at least one case in which such an accident had very serious results. A young girl who was engaged to a college youth whose father was a prosperous business man in a New England city. The couple were to be married and the young man taken into his father's business as soon as he graduated from college. A few months before that event, however, the father suddenly went into bankruptcy under most distressing circumstances.

Love Letter Lost  
The boy immediately wrote to the girl in New York, releasing her from the engagement. His letter was not precisely gentle, for he had been unprepared for the catastrophe and his pride was hurt. Among other things he told her that he would not be able to support a wife for some time to come, because he would have his father's debts to pay off. The girl wrote back refusing to give him up, and explaining that she could, if necessary, support herself. This letter somehow got lost in a local postoffice (the postoffice worker blames a mail bag) and was not delivered until two years later—two years too late. In the meantime, the girl also had her pride, had married someone else.

An amazing quantity of mail fails to reach its destination every year, of course, because it is misdirected. Approximately 325,000 pieces of mail

—By Herbert Johnson

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safe handling and delivery of the mails. In addition to maintaining a large staff for interpreting the mistaken directions of the public, it has lately adopted elaborate measures to combat theft. Among these is the requirement that all postal employees be fingerprinted. It is constantly establishing new regulations, new systems and new records for cutting down losses of mail from all causes. Accidents, of course, are inevitable. Bandits are still numerous. But a much higher state of efficiency could be reached, if the public would only do its part.

## Questions And Answers

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The Republican Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C. This offer applies strictly to information. The bureau cannot give advice on legal, medical and financial matters. It does not attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake exhaustive research on any subject. Write your question plainly and briefly. Give full name and address and enclose 2 cents in stamps for return postage. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

Q. A says that there are no men exactly six feet tall. B says the woods are full of them. Which is right? T. F. McK.

A. The War Department says that in the physical examinations a connection with the draft it was found that 36 out of each 1,000 examined were exactly six feet in height.

Q. In the Homestead strike were Federal troops called out? L. W. S.

A. In the Homestead strike of 1922 Federal troops were not used, but practically the whole National Guard of Pennsylvania was called out.

Q. Did Robert Ingersoll advocate a league of nations? A. D.

A. Ingersoll was about the first, if not the first, of our men of prominence to advocate a league or association of nations. In his lecture "How to Reform Mankind," delivered in Chicago in 1892, he advocated, at length, an international court of arbitration, and an army and a navy to be placed at the disposition of this court to carry its decisions into effect when necessary—the rest of Christendom to be disbanded. "This should be the only excuse for an army or navy in the civilized world."

Q. What became of the assignats, the French paper money issued by the Revolutionary government between 1790 and 1800? A. L. M.

A. The assignats were redeemed at the rate of 50-1 in the new form of paper money known as territorial mandates. As much as 1,400,000,000 of this money was issued, but it soon lost value and was repudiated by the refusal of the French government to receive it at its face value. On May 21, 1797, all the outstanding assignats were declared void.

Q. What is the oldest royal residence in the world? T. M.

A. Probably Windsor Castle is the oldest royal residence. Windsor was a residence of the Saxon kings before the Conquest, their palace being at old Windsor. William the Conqueror chose the present site, built a castle there, which was taken down and the present one built in the time of Edward II. This has since been extended and completely renovated.

Q. What is meant by plenary conference? L. E. S.

A. A conference fully attended, with authority to take final action, is a plenary conference.

Q. Has there ever been an international agreement to limit armaments? D. V. W.

A. Such an agreement was made between Chile and Argentina in 1902. Pennsylvania ever made one.

Q. Where is the highest point in Pennsylvania? M. P.

A. According to the Geological Survey, the highest point in Pennsylvania is Negro Mountain, Somerset county, which has an elevation of 2,220 feet.

Q. What is beet syrup used for? H. E. L.

A. The Department of Agriculture says that beet syrup is used principally as a table syrup, but is may be used for all purposes for which syrups are used, as in making candy, sweet breads, and dark-colored cake. It may also be used in place of part of the sugar used in jam making.

Q. Where in the Bible can I find reference to the man in the moon? D. A. R.

A. Legend connects the man in the moon with the moon-spoken of in Numbers, 12th chapter, 29th to 31st.

## BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

PERFECT PEACE:—Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.—Isaiah 26:3.

## THE DEBTS OF THE NATIONS

BY DR. FRANK CRANE  
(Copyright, 1921, by Frank Crane)

One of Mr. Vanderlip's vital and most sound suggestions is that the United States collect the money which other nations owe her and devote it to the rehabilitation of Europe.

This idea goes down to the granite bed-rock of common sense.

The debts of the nations at present are mountain high. Just how much they are does not matter. The figures mean nothing to us, for they only dazzle us, stupefy us.

Suffice it to say, that as humanity attempts to rise after the knock-out blow of the war, it finds an incubus of debt upon its back which threatens its collapse.

Great Britain owes the United States an incredible sum. The other nations owe Great Britain incredible sums. Everybody owes everybody else a lot more than they have any prospect of paying.

If somehow the world's debts to the United States, which is the principal creditor, were removed, it would be like unlocking a prison door for humanity.

Mr. Vanderlip's idea contains two points.

1. The debts of the world to the United States should not be remitted. The nations should be given to understand that they will have to pay them and the interest on them. We cannot commence reconstruction on a basis of dishonesty. And these debts were made fair and square. They ought to be paid and the world can pay them.

2. Yet the United States should not take a cent of this money for its own use. It should spend it all on the reconstruction of Europe.

If you would know, ask Hoover, or any business man of large vision and he could easily tell you.

As suggestions it might be mentioned that the colleges and schools of Europe should be helped to get on their feet and to increase their efficiency. All real construction must begin with the youth. Let us do what we can to raise up a better generation.

In the second place, railways might be built and broken down railways improved.

Of progress, the most essential factor is transportation. Develop and perfect the systems of transportation and prosperity will follow.

In the third place, this money might be spent for the advancement of science and invention.

In these three ways and in others Europe could be helped again to its feet.

This is not an altruistic scheme, although altruism is the most effective practicality: you might call it intelligent selfishness, rather.

For a prosperous Europe would mean a prosperous United States. It would mean a mass of new customers for our goods. We are world merchants and a merchant succeeds according to the spread of general welfare among his customers.

Some such plan as this, if we could only have the courage and vision to carry it through, would not only be immediately practical, but it would result in giving to America the permanent leadership of the world. If we only had enough big Americans, men with statesmanship and not men of partisanship, we would grasp this opportunity to take our place in the forefront of civilization.

verses, who was condemned to death.

Q. What is the story of Barry, a St. Bernard dog? M. A. P.

A. According to legend Barry was shot by a traveler, whom he was about to rescue, in mistake for a wolf. His body was stuffed and is to be found in the Natural History Museum at Bern, Switzerland.

Q. Who was the original of Gainsborough's "Blue Boy"? A. D. L.

A. Jonathan Burthal, the son of a wealthy ironmonger, of London, was the original "Blue Boy" in the portrait by Gainsborough which bears that name.

Q. What is picric acid? D. W. K.

A. Picric is the acid obtained by the action of nitric acid on phenol or allied compounds. It is bitter, poisonous and unstable when heated. It is used as a dye and in the manufacture of explosives.

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Q. How many years has it been possible to talk from New York to San Francisco by long distance? T. L.

A. The Chesapeake and Ohio Telephone company says the long distance line between New York and San Francisco was first opened on January 22, 1915.

Q. What division in the United States army advanced the farthest during the war? L. G. B.

A. The war department says that the 27th Division advanced the greatest distance of any American Division against the enemy. This division made an advance of 71½ kilometers or 44 miles.

Q. How long are the rails used by railroads? J. G. R.

A. The bureau of railway economics says that the standard length of a steel rail is 39 feet. However, there are many rails used that vary from 20 to 60 feet in length. Rails vary according to location, longer ones being used in tunnels, shorter ones on mountains.

Q. Is it true that frogs and toads have been found in freshly broken marble or granite? R. R.

A. Such tales are not credited by scientists. They originate in deliberate misrepresentation or misnomer.

Q. When life here's a-tingle With frost and winter sports, Would I care to mingle At southern resorts

With people who blow there Their cash for no good? Would I like to go there? I'll say that I would!

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